

# Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Benefit Resources

In 2004, Congress adopted the Medicare Modernization Act (MMA) that established limited prescription drug coverage under Medicare which is referred to as Medicare Part D.

For Medicare eligible retirees and dependents, Medicare allows employer sponsored retiree health insurance to continue, provided that the coverage is at least equal to or greater in value than the Medicare Part D coverage. For plans that continue to offer coverage to retirees and dependents, Medicare will reimburse the plan a portion of the cost of eligible members' prescription drug costs.

PEEHIP has elected to continue providing prescription drug benefits to retirees and dependents eligible for Medicare Part D benefits provided the retirees meet certain requirements of the regulations adopted by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). **Therefore, Medicare eligible members and dependents should not enroll in Medicare Part D.** Medicare eligible members and dependents continue to need Medicare Part A and Part B to have adequate coverage with PEEHIP.

CMS regulations provide that PEEHIP may receive reimbursement for a portion of the prescription drugs of Medicare Eligible retirees and dependents provided that such retirees do not elect to participate in Medicare Part D. For any retiree who elects to participate in Medicare Part D, the CMS will not reimburse PEEHIP for any portion of that member's prescription drugs. Accordingly, should a Medicare eligible retiree acquire Medicare Part D coverage, he or she will forfeit PEEHIP prescription drug coverage. Persons forfeiting PEEHIP prescription drug coverage may reapply for it during the next open enrollment provided he or she no longer has Medicare Part D coverage.

Telephone Number	Description
Medicare 800-MEDICARE 800-633-4227	Medicare Help Line
Social Security Administration 800-772-1213	Recorded information and services are available 24 hours a day, including weekends and holidays.

Web Site	Description
Medicare <a href="http://www.medicare.gov">www.medicare.gov</a>	Provides access to information about Medicare and Medicare health plans.
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services <a href="http://www.cms.hhs.gov">www.cms.hhs.gov</a>	CMS administers Medicare and Medicaid programs. A database of frequently asked questions is available.

Web Site	Description
Social Security Administration <a href="http://www.ssa.gov">www.ssa.gov</a>	Link to the Social Security Administration's site for information on low-income subsidies and other resources.
AARP <a href="http://www.aarp.com/bulletin">www.aarp.com/bulletin</a>	Access the Medicare Benefit Drug Calculator, which illustrates what the Medicare drug benefit means to you.
Access to Benefits Coalition <a href="http://www.accesstobenefits.com">www.accesstobenefits.com</a>	Prescription drug savings for those who need them most.
Aging Parents and Elder Care <a href="http://www.todaysseniors.com">www.todaysseniors.com</a>	Senior Solutions is an independent organization providing information on issues to help seniors get the most out of retirement.
Benefits Check Up <a href="https://ssl.benefitscheckup.org">https://ssl.benefitscheckup.org</a>	A service of the National Council on the Aging; helps find programs for people ages 55 and over that may pay some costs of prescription drugs, health care, utilities, and other essential items or services.
Destination Rx <a href="http://www.destinationrx.com">www.destinationrx.com</a>	Provides a pharmacy discount buying service.
Medicare Rights Center <a href="http://www.medicarerights.org">www.medicarerights.org</a>	Medicare Rights Center (MRC) is the largest independent U.S. source of health information and assistance for people with Medicare.
NeedyMeds.com <a href="http://www.needymeds.com">www.needymeds.com</a>	Find information on patient assistance programs that provide no cost prescription medications to eligible participants.
Rxaminer.com <a href="http://www.rxaminer.com">www.rxaminer.com</a>	Use this prescription drug comparison tool to find lower-cost prescription drugs.
Together Rx <a href="http://www.togetherrx.com">www.togetherrx.com</a>	Offers a prescription drug savings program.